

The Bethesda Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carlton MN

204 5th St. P.O Box 210

Carlton, MN 55718

November 2024

This Month's Beacon

Pastor's Beacon Article

Staff & Council

Updates

Financials

Collecting for a Cause//Donation Items

Children, Youth, Family, & Ed.

Baptismal Birthdays

Coffee & Worship Assistant Schedules

Calendar

Sunday Worship

8:30am

In House and Online

You can also view the Beacon on our website at bethesdacarlton.org

If you would like to have a copy emailed to you, please contact the office at office@bethesdacarlton.org

YOU will be
enriched in every
way TO be
GENEROUS
in every way,
which ... will produce
thanksgiving
TO God.

2 Corinthians 9:11, ESV



Democracy and Faith

What does faith have to do with democracy?

In one sense, the two answers to this question are simple.

First, faith calls us to faithful participation in our democracy. Christian discipleship touches every part of our lives, including voting and all our forms of democratic participation. Lutherans will vote in different ways but are, at our best, hope, pray, and vote on behalf of not only ourselves but also our neighbors. This much isn't too complicated or new.

Second, faith also calls us to support democracy. The ELCA, and Lutheran churches across the world, proclaim that though we are always fallible and though sin is ever-present, a government that protects the rule of law, protects civil liberties, and is responsive to its citizens, is the best form of government we have available to us. Our church in the US has studied and written a social statement on democracy and scripture, coming out solidly in support of democracy. This, though, is also not too complicated. We're fallible, but also need rulers, so democracy is the best way to have them.

So, today, I want to ask this question: what does faith have to do with democracy when we are afraid?

It's no secret: fear and anxiety hang over our national politics at the moment. As

the national elections grows closer, so too does our level of worry and fear grow.

So my encouragement for you today is from Matthew 6:25-34:

“Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life^[a]?...

³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

My encouragement for you, faithful person, is to remember that no matter what happens in November locally or nationally, politically or democratically, that God is still God. There is ultimate security in that fact – that God is God. We know the end of the story of God's universe - and we know that it doesn't depend even one iota on the outcome of any election.

Go out and vote if you can, participate in democracy, and serve your neighbor - but push worry away, for God is God, and still will be God, no matter what happens. Thanks be to God.

Peace be with you and yours this month!

-Pastor Seth Wynands

Bethesda Staff

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Cathy Dale, Accompanist

Anna Bong, Custodian

Ronay Frank, Custodian

Current Members of Bethesda

Church Council

Roxane SchmitzPresident

Lynn Beatty Vice President

Jen Goad Secretary

Jeannette Korpela Treasurer

Diana Davis

Jason Goad

JoAnn Gustafson

Debby Johnson

Linda Newlon

If you have items that you wish to be addressed by council, contact a member of the Executive Committee at:

bethesdalutherancouncil@gmail.com

Next Council Meeting will be held

November 19th at 5:30 p.m.

There will be a joint service at Rivers Edge on December 15th at 9:30 with a potluck to follow.

Come join the Bible Study Group Fridays at 11 a.m.-Noon. We will be having Bible Study the day after Thanksgiving. All are welcome to attend!



Daylight Savings Time Ends November 3rd. Don't forget to turn your clocks back.



November 11th is Veteran's Day. Remember to pray for our Veteran's and the service men and women and their families; and thank them for honorable service for our country.



November Baptismal Birthdays

Lewis Castle, Lillian Dewitt, Joyce Houtz, Jaxson Swanson, Haley Ableiter, Marlys McKinstry, Adrian Buller, Autumn Buller, Kevein Conley, Stacy Sell, Daniel Sell, Tara Olson, Linda Newlon, Colton Bieniek, Jackie Curtiss, Nita Lindgren, Steven Alexander Jr., Aaron Krone, Evan Krone, Joyce Aubol, Madalyn Dewitt, Peter Young, Jorgen Herman, Kurt Johnson, Tucker Selin, Kristie Peterson, Jeff Sell, Zeke Rousseau-Sheff, Colten Devriendt, Adam Schmitz, William Sparks, Nathan Young, Marlee Wakefield, Kim Ableiter, Charles Finne V, Callie Holm, Hannah Nygren, Lauren Soukkala, Kari Isakson, Kristin Johnson, & Daniel Rudolph

Financial Update			
Year to date as of 09/30/2024			
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Envelope giving	80185.03	82500.03	(2315.00)
Non-pledged income	31673.61	29825.06	1848.55
TOTAL INCOME	111858.64	112325.09	(466.45)
Salaries/Compensation	72808.36	81634.75	(8826.39)
General Office Expenses	7158.06	8671.50	(1513.44)
Utilities	9976.63	11028.69	(1052.06)
Other Expenses	1028.60	1392.44	363.84
Benevolence Expenses	801.60	825.03	(23.43)
Evangelism Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Expenses	2265.75	2722.50	(456.75)
Social Ministry	249.00	343.72	(94.72)
Worship Expenses	833.04	1574.97	(741.93)
CYFM Expenses	1392.55	3596.22	(2203.67)
TOTAL EXPENSES	96513.59	111689.82	(15176.23)
Net operating income	15345.05	635.27	14709.78
Non-pledged income includes Loose offering, Special Services, Meatball supper, Sunday School, Interest Income, etc. Memorial money is not included in any of the figures above.			

Thrivent "Give Thanks Give Back" 2024

Food Shelf Drive Oct 13, 2024 through Nov 10, 2024

It's that time of the year again for Bethesda Lutheran Church to take the Thrivent Food Shelf "Give Thanks, Give Back" Challenge.

Starting Sunday Oct 13th through Sunday Nov 10, 2024, we will need to reach a goal of 300 items for the Cloquet Salvation Army Food Shelf and then Thrivent will donate \$400.00 to Second Harvest Northland. They will in turn serve as much as 90% of the food/items that are distributed to the area food shelves in our local communities.



Our hearts and prayers are with the family, friends, and all who knew and loved Ralland "Rollie" Postal who passed away October 1st. He was the brother to Bob Postal and Jerry Beckwith and brother-in-law to Myrna Postal. To the family and friends of Dean Thompson who passed away on October 10th. He was the brother to Dale Thompson and brother-in-law to Angie. May God's love surround you and provide you with strength, peace and comfort in the days ahead. We are so sorry for your loss.

Examples of what are often most needed:

1. High protein items: ex. peanut butter, canned meats, soups and chilis.
2. Boxed meals, cereals, grains: ex. rice, pasta and instant potatoes
3. Produce: canned fruits and veggies - if you have extra items from your garden you can donate those many times.
4. Paper products and cleaning supplies
5. Diapers: These go quickly and are much needed. Food banks cannot accept baby food or formula.
6. Personal hygiene products: ex. shampoo, soap, shaving cream.

Please do not donate expired/outdated Items.

If you wish to donate money, please give to one of the committee members, Debby Johnson, or Pat Durkee, and we will shop for you.

Please put your donations in the Food Shelf Collection Box as you enter the Narthex.

DO NOT PUT on the Display on the Altar.

WE NEED TO KEEP A RUNNING TOTAL of items each week to make sure we reach the minimum goal of 300 items.

We will count the items each week, add them to the Display and announce to the congregation the following week.

Please help us reach our goal by Nov 10th.

If you have questions, contact Debby or Pat

Thank you for your support!

Debby and Pat

IFCC Service Reminder

Bethesda holds a service at Interfaith Care Center the 2nd Sunday of each month in the IFCC Community Room at 2:30 p.m. *All are welcome to join!*

Thanksgiving Donations: From now until November 17th, WELCA will be collecting monetary donations for Thanksgiving gift cards for those in need. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at the church – there are also envelopes available in the pews. WELCA will also be collecting money for the *Christmas gift cards* beginning November 24th, deadline for donations will be December 15th. **THANK YOU** for your donations. Because of them many families will be able to have a great holiday meal!

Social Ministry is collecting winter items, hygiene products, for the Damiano Center. They need winter jackets, boots, hats, mittens, scarfs and winter items for larger men.



**“A Touch of
Scandinavia”
Annual Christmas
Bazaar**

**YES !!! we will be having our
Bazaar**

Saturday December 7th
9:00-1:00.

It will feature all the different areas and specialty items that we have had in the past. If you have items to donate and /or are willing to work, please call

the person in charge of that part of the event.

Rosettes- Mary Saarela 218-393-2693

Peanut butter blossoms – Ginny

Kortie-Castle 218-384-3896

Spritz –Debra Croft 218-380-1035

Krumkake- Linda Newlon 218-879-6274

Lefse- Linda Newlon Home 218-879-6274

Baked items from home- Jen Goad 218-590-5042

Lunch items-Jeannette Korpela 218-590-7848

Hot Lefse- Dawn Soukkala 218-879-1648

Next to New-Sharon Bragge 218-384-4076

Silent auction- Mary Saarela 218-393-2693

Raffle- JoAnn Gustafson 218-879-7063

Crafts /miscellaneous items- Mary Saarela 218-393-2693

Check out – Pat Durkee 218-384-3645

Sign-up Sheets with specific dates and times will be available the beginning of November. These activities will also be announced at church and will be on our Facebook page.

This is a great opportunity to work together and get to know each other better as members of the Bethesda and members of River's Edge who are willing to come and help us with this event.

Please feel free to call me with any questions and /or concerns that you might have.

Please see JoAnn Gustafson to purchase Raffle tickets for the Bazaar before or after the church service. Thank you.

Linda Newlon, Bazaar chair 879-6274

Social Ministry will be hosting coffee in support of epilepsy on November 10th in memory of April Schmitz.

Collecting for a Cause

Pop tops off aluminum cans: given to The Ronald McDonald House.

Brown paper grocery bags: given to a non-profit thrift store.

New greeting cards: given to Interfaith Care Center, Carlton Place, and Pineview Apartments for residents to use.

Fall of 2024- 2025 calendars to give to residents at Interfaith Care Center.

Social Ministry

Hygiene products for those in need:

Shampoo, toothpaste/brush, soap, comb and personal care products

Making Mats for the Homeless:

Clean plastic shopping bags. Mat Makers use them to create 6' x 3' sleeping mats for those in need.

Drop plastic bags off in small coat closet in the Narthex.

Sewers Needed

Lutheran World Relief project
Please consider hemming pre cut
diaper squares, onesies, sleepers.
Flannel sheets, pillow cases/material
needed to make diapers and receiving
blankets

Cloquet Salvation Army Food Shelf

316 Carlton Ave. Cloquet, MN
218-879-1693

Hours:

Monday 4-6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Please consider donating
nonperishable food items and paper
products. Our Food Shelf collection
box is located near the basement steps.

Thank you!

**NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE
FOR J.A.M./ MESSAGE**

***November 3rd – Jesus and Me –
J.A.M.

***November 10th - message with
Pastor Seth

***November 17th – Jesus and Me –
J.A.M.

***November 24th – message with
Pastor Seth

**DECEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE
FOR J.A.M./ MESSAGE**

***December 1st – J.A.M. – Jesus
and Me

***December 8th – message with
Pastor Seth

***December 15th - J.A.M. – Jesus
and Me

***December 22nd – *NO MESSAGE
WITH PASTOR SETH*

***December 29th – *NO J.A.M. –
JESUS AND ME*



Beacon Information CYFED –
October 2024

J.A.M./message schedule remains the
same. J.A.M. the 1st and 3rd Sundays of
the month and the message on the 2nd
and 4th Sunday's.

Book/Article study is still held on the
last Tuesday of the month at 5:30. The
months of June, July and August the
group went out for dinner. The Friday
Bible Study still meeting. They have
good discussion with approx. 3-6 in
attendance.

Bible Study Galatians finished on
Thursday, October 10th. Thank you
Diana Davis for teaching this Bible
Study. There were approx. 10 in
attendance each week.

The cookout/kickoff for the fall classes
had a good turnout.

Mental Health night for grades 6-12th youth & families was held on Wednesday, October 9th from 6-7:30 pm. Guest speaker was Joy Hensel. There were 66 youth and adults in attendance from Our Saviors Lutheran, Zion Lutheran, Elim, Salem and Bethesda. It was a good mixer for all youth & adults.

The All-Youth Gathering will be held on November 23rd or 24th. As of this meeting, we have 6 youth signed up to go and 2 volunteer chaperones. More to follow!

Synod Ministry night is scheduled for March 12, 2025, from 6-7:30 pm. The guest speaker will be Reverend Taryn Montgomery from the Synod. The event will be at Bethesda Lutheran Church and will be a multi-parish event with meal and worship. More to follow!

Christmas Vigil for the youth and parents will be held on Saturday, December 14th from 6-8 PM. We will be sharing a meal, crafts and assembling the Christmas bags for the residents at InterFaith Care Center. More to follow!

The next CYFED meeting will be held on **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024 AT 5:30 PM IN THE GATHERING SPACE. THE DATE/DAY HAS CHANGED DUE**

TO NOVEMBER 5TH BEING ELECTION DAY.

All are welcome to join us. We are always looking for ideas to get our youth involved. Thank you from the CYFED Committee Pastor Seth, Wendy Mitchell, Linda Newlon, Diana Davis, and JoAnn Gustafson. If you have questions/concerns/ideas please feel free to contact a committee member.



November Coffee Serving Schedule

11/3 Lori's Group
11/10 Social Ministry
11/17 Jeannette's Group
11/24 Ginny's Group

Greeters

11/3 Pat Durkee
11/10 Sharon Bragge & Jimmy Bragge
11/17 JoAnn Gustafson & Ailie
11/24 Rod & Deb Davis

Ushers

11/3 Linda Newlon & Debby Johnson
11/10 Sharon Bragge & Jimmy Bragge
11/17 JoAnn Gustafson & Ailie
11/24 Terry & Sue Coady

Lector

11/3 Kevein Conley
11/10 Cheryl Ankrum
11/17 Pat Durkee
11/24 Wendy Mitchell

Acolyte

11/3 Anna
11/10 Ailie
11/17 Mason
11/24 Anna

Communion Assistants

11/3 Roxane Schmitz & Mary Saarela
11/10 JoAnn Gustafson & Anna Bong
11/17 Jason & Jen Goad
11/24 Pat Durkee & Cheryl Ankrum

Counters

11/3 Linda Newlon & JoAnn Gustafson
11/10 Lynn Beatty & Bev Mangan
11/17 Mary Saarela & Lori Bunge
11/24 Chris Mitchell & Diana Davis



December Coffee Serving Schedule

12/1 Pat's Group
12/8 Cary's Group
12/15 Joint Service at Rivers Edge
12/22 Linda's Group
12/29 Deb's Group

Greeters

12/1 Marv & Pat Durkee
12/8 Brad & Lori Bunge
12/15 Joint Service at Rivers Edge
12/22 Ginny Korte-Castle
12/29 Deb & Rod Davis

Ushers

12/1 Pat Durkee & Debby Johnson
12/8 Craig & Roxane Schmitz
12/15 Joint Service at Rivers Edge
12/22 Sharon Bragge & Mary Saarela
12/29 JoAnn Gustafson & Ailie

Lector

12/1 Lynn Beatty
12/8 Randy Schmitz
12/15 Joint Service at Rivers Edge
12/22 Ginny Korte-Castle
12/29 Lessons and Carols

Acolyte

12/1 Anna
12/8 Ailie
12/15 Joint Service at Rivers Edge
12/22 Anna
12/29 Lessons and Carols

Communion Assistants

12/1 Chris & Wendy Mitchell
12/8 JoAnn Gustafson & Anna Bong
12/15 Joint Service at Rivers Edge
12/22 Jason & Jen Goad
12/29 Lessons and Carols

Counters

12/1 Lynn Beatty & Linda Newlon
12/8 Mary Saarela & JoAnn Gustafson
12/15 Joint Service at Rivers Edge
12/22 Chris Mitchell & Diana Davis
12/29 Bev Mangan & Linda Newlon

Bethesda Women's Retreat 2025
Wednesday, January 15 – Sunday, January 19
One Camp Heartland, Willow River, MN

Open to all women of Bethesda, River's Edge, and their friends!

Crafting area with tables | Fireplace with hearth for lounging | Snowshoe & ski trails (bring your own gear) | 9:30a Brunch & 5:30p Dinner

You will have your own bed (all bottom bunks depending on our numbers) with a bathroom in each bedroom. Bring your own linens, toiletries, snacks, beverages, games, extension cords, ott lights, iron/board (if sewing), etc.

\$50 per person (or I'm happy to take payment in full-less paperwork!!) Final payment due by January 3rd. If you cancel you will forfeit your deposit. Please print **CLEARLY**. Thanks and can't wait to spend time together.

Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

The cost is \$45 per day if you plan to sleep at camp OR \$25 if you attend just for the day. Meals are included, starting with dinner on Wednesday night.

I will be attending: Wednesday with overnight:	\$45	_____
Thursday day only:	\$25	_____
Thursday with overnight:	\$45	_____
Friday day only:	\$25	_____
Friday with overnight:	\$45	_____
Saturday day only:	\$25	_____
Saturday with overnight:	\$45	_____

Thank you to WELCA and Thrivent Financial for helping support retreat. Make check payable to WELCA and return this form to Ginny Korte-Castle 2175 Gillogly Rd. Carlton, MN 55718 vircastle@gmail.com 218-384-3896

November 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 11am Bible Study	2
3 8:30a Worship J.A.M 9:45a Coffee/ Fellowship 9:45a WELCA Meeting 10:30a Worship @ River's Edge	4	5 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	6 6p Confirmation Class 6-9 th Grade 6:00p Family Worship for All	7 5:30pm Children, Youth, Family & Ed. Meeting	8 11am Bible Study	9
10 8:30a Worship Message with Pastor 9:45a Coffee/ For Epilepsy 10:30a Worship @ River's Edge 2:30pm Interfaith Service	11	12 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	13 6p Confirmation Class 6-9 th Grade 6:00p Family Worship for All	14	15 11am Bible Study	16
17 8:30a Worship J.A.M 9:45a Coffee/ Fellowship 10:30a Worship @ River's Edge	18	19 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 4:30 Worship Meeting 5:30pm Council Meeting 6pm Serenity Seekers	20 6p Confirmation Class 6-9 th Grade 6:00p Family Worship for All	21 1pm Jam Group 5:30pm Ladies of Kaleva	22 Beacon Deadline 11am Bible Study	23
24 8:30a Worship Baptismal Birthdays 9:45a Coffee/ Fellowship	25	26 9am Making Mats for the Homeless 6pm Serenity Seekers	27 No Confirmation or Worship	28 Happy Thanksgiving!	29 11am Bible Study	30

Bethesda Lutheran Church
204 5th Street
P.O. Box 210
Carlton, MN 55718

Sunday Worship

8:30am

In House

And Online

*You can also view the Beacon
on our website at
bethesdacarlton.org or if you
would like to have a copy
mailed or emailed to you please
contact the office.*



November